

D 9901

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE  
S. & REGISTRY  
No. S. B. D. 7901  
Date 30 3 40

March

29

40.

Dear Mr. Cox,

With reference to your letter of  
March 18th, 1940, I forward herewith a <sup>x</sup>copy  
of a police report regarding Mrs. Cherkassky  
and Mr. and Mrs. D'Almeida.

Yours sincerely,

*R. G. Y.*

*\* Sent  
In.  
30*

A. T. Cox, Esq.,

Passport Control Officer,

H.B.M. Consulate-General,

Shanghai.

INDEXED BY  
(S. B. REGISTRY)  
DATE 30/3/40

**SECRET**

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE  
S. & REGISTRY

Section 1, Special Branch

REPORT

No. S. B. D.

Date

March 20, 1940.

Subject. Communication dated 18-3-40 from the British Consulate-General concerning Mrs. L.M. Cherkassky and Mr. & Mrs. D'Almeida.

Made by... D.S. Prokofiev. Forwarded by... Supt. J. Mason.

Mrs Lubov ( Lioa ) Naumovna Cherkassky nee Nait, Russian of Jewish origin, was born on 27-4-1904 at Harbin. Her mother, Mrs N.M. Nait, is an old resident of Shanghai and at present conducts a boarding house at 633/13 Avenue Joffre ( Linda Terrace ).

She is the wife of Naum Mordkovich Cherkassky, 44, also a Russian of Jewish extraction. He arrived in Shanghai from Harbin some time in 1923. Here he was employed with the Carlton Theatre as a mechanic for several years, after which he conducted his own business in Avenue Joffre known as the Parisian Shoe Store for a period. From 1933 he has been connected with the China Finance Corporation, 9 Avenue Edward VII and is at present employed as manager of the Arisco Bar, 39 Avenue Edward VII, owned by the China Finance Corporation.

In June, 1939 he applied for a visa to enable him and his wife to proceed to France where they intended to spend Mr. Cherkassky's three months' leave. He stated that the passage etc. would be provided by his employers. Enquiries made by the French Police indicated that he had a capital of about C.F. 25,000. However, Mr. Cherkassky's general reputation was not all that could be desired. It would also appear that there existed certain doubts as to the bona fides of the proposed trip to France. The application for the visa in question was not granted. Shortly afterwards the couple proceeded to Tsingtao on a holiday trip, returning to Shanghai some time during the autumn of the same year.

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They are registered with the Russian Emigrants Committee and at present reside at 305 Avenue Retain, Apt. 22.

On 28-6-34 and on 7-7-36 warrants of arrest were issued against Mr. Cherkassky by the 2nd S.S.D. Court in connection with some civil cases.

There is nothing in the Municipal Police records concerning Mrs Cherkassky, and enquiries have failed to elicit any information detrimental to her character.

Discreet enquiries from members of the local Portuguese community show that Mr. C.M. D'Almeida, age about 50, is known to have formerly worked in Shanghai as an accountant, after which he is reported to have been residing for various periods in other ports in the Far East. His last known visit in Shanghai was in 1939 when he arrived here from Hongkong on 27-6-39 aboard the s.s. "Conte Biancamano" together with his wife ( Mrs Cherkassky's sister ). The couple stayed at the Metropole Hotel. On 3-10-39 Mrs D'Almeida was about to leave Shanghai for Hongkong in the s.s. "Asama Maru", but was obliged to postpone her departure owing to the fact that customs officers discovered in her luggage certain undeclared property ( furs and jewellery ) valued, it is reported, at \$50,000. She proved that the jewellery was her own, and was fined \$1,500 plus export duty for failing to declare the furs. There was no court case in this connection and on October 17 of the same year she left for Hongkong aboard the s.s. "Nakusen Maru".

The Municipal Police records contain no reference

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to either Mr. D'Almeida or his wife. With the exception of an unconfirmed report to the effect that many years ago Mr. D'Almeida misappropriated a certain sum of money at Shanghai and that the affair was settled by his brother and friends, enquiries have failed to disclose any information detrimental to the characters of these two persons. Mr. D'Almeida's brother, Mr. M. D'Almeida, is at present employed with the Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada, Shanghai.

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3.

A. Prokofiev  
D. S. I.

D. C. ( Special Branch ).

## **Customs Seize Lakh Worth Of Jewelry, Fur**

Jewelry and 50 pieces of fur, valued at \$100,000, were taken from aboard the s.s. Asama Maru yesterday when preventive officers of the Shanghai Maritime Customs visited the ship shortly before she was scheduled to sail for Hongkong.

The property, which belonged to a Portuguese lady, Mrs. C. E. d'Almeida, was detained because they had not been "declared" in

accordance with customs regulations.

In order to complete their search, the Customs officers had to request the captain to delay the sailing of of the liner by 15 minutes.

Taken unawares, Mrs. d'Almeida was informed by the visiting officers in her cabin that they would like to see her baggage. A search was subsequently made and

her valuables were later removed to the Customs shed at the Wayside Wharf where the ship had just weighed anchor.



Mr. H.M. Cherkassky



Mrs. L.N. Cherkassky

Confidential

British Consulate-General,

Shanghai.

March 18 1940

No. S. B. D. 7201

Date

Dear Mr. Yorke,

I have received an application for permission to proceed to Hongkong from Mrs. Luba Naumovna Cherkassky, a stateless Russian, living at Apt. 22, 305 Avenue Retain (telephone No. 70269). She states she wishes to go to the Colony for health reasons and gives as a reference her brother-in-law, Mr. O. F. D'Almeida, Proprietor of the United States Sales Association, Room 46, 4th Floor, Stock Exchange Building, Ice Street, Hongkong.

Mrs. Cherkassky was born in Farbin on August 27th 1904, and has a small son aged one year and two months. She previously lived in Tsingtao.

According to our records Mr. and Mrs. D'Almeida are Portuguese, holding Passport No. 72/39 issued in Hongkong on 22/6/1939, and were granted a visa on the 28th August 1939 for Hongkong. They gave the Metropole Hotel as their address in Shanghai.

/I

R. W. Yorke, Esquire,  
Shanghai Municipal Police,  
SHANGHAI.



2.

I have been informed that Mrs. D'almeida (Mrs. Cherkassky's sister) was, in October last year, taken off the S.S. "Asama Maru" in Shanghai shortly before the departure of the steamer for Hongkong, when an undeclared cargo of furs and jewellery, valued at about £50,000, was found amongst her personal property in her cabin, and that she was <sup>prosecuted and</sup> fined £1,500.

I should be grateful if you can confirm my information and give me a full report on the activities of Mr. and Mrs. D'almeida and Mrs. Iuba N. Cherkassky.

Once again may I thank you, in advance, for all the assistance you give me in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

  
Passport Control Officer.

British Consulate-General,

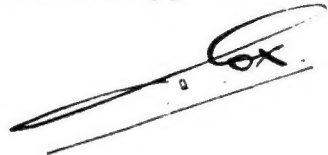
SHANGHAI,

30th March 1910  
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE  
S. B. REGISTRY  
No. S. B. D. 9901  
Date 3 11 1910

Dear Mr. Yorke,

I acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter D 9901 of the 29th March enclosing a report on Mrs. Cherkassky and Mr. and Mrs. D'Almeida. The information contained therein has been passed on to the Commissioner of Police, Hongkong.

Yours sincerely,



R. W. Yorke, Esquire,  
Shanghai Municipal Police,  
S H A N G H A I.

*R. W. Yorke*  
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G. SUM-1-37**SECRET**

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

S. &amp; REGISTRY

S. I. Special Branch

REPORT

Date March 29, 1940

Subject: Communication dated 20.3.40 from 1st Lt. Honsowetz, U.S.M.C.,  
concerning Miss Z. Levadny

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev Forwarded by Supt. J. Mason

Miss Zinaida Vassilievna LEVADNY, Russian, was born on 1.4.1918 at Pitaohedzy Station, Chinese Eastern Railway. It appears that she is of a modest origin and education. According to her own statement, prior to her coming to Shanghai she worked at Harbin as a dressmaker for a period. She arrived in Shanghai in July, 1937 and soon afterwards started to work as a dancing partner in local cabarets. From 15.1.38 to 24.5.38 she resided in a small Russian boarding house at 606 Avenue Joffre, House 7, during which period she is reported to have been cohabiting with a Russian named J. Maknan, a mechanic by occupation. During the summer of 1938 she was absent to Tsingtao and following her return to Shanghai is known to have resided at 348 Rue Bourgeat, also a Russian boarding house of a modest type, from 4.12.38 to 11.6.39. Her next known address is 382 Rue Frelupt, Apt. 1.

In the beginning of December, 1939 when applying for a passport to enable her to proceed to Harbin, Tsingtao and Japan, Miss Levadny did not make any secret of the fact that she was cohabiting with an American, but did not disclose the name of the latter. It is also reported that a few days ago during the course of a conversation with a female friend she mentioned about the death in Manila of her former paramour. In this connection it should be pointed out that on March 19, 1940 local newspapers published a telegram dated 18/3, Manila, regarding the alleged murder of Seaman John Randolph Pirshir, U.S.S. Marblehead. There is, therefore,

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every reason to believe that J.R. Pirshir was the individual with whom Miss Levadny cohabited until the end of January, 1940 when the U.S.S. Marplehead departed from Shanghai.

Miss Levadny is reported to be working at the Del Monte Cabaret at present.

Enquiries have failed to elicit any information which could suggest that there has been a marked change for the better in her financial circumstances recently.

There is nothing in the Municipal Police records to the detriment of this person.

Miss Levadny has two sisters in Shanghai of whom one, Mrs. V.V. Choglokov, is known as the common law wife of Mr. Sosustow, former employee of the S.M. Council, and the other, Mrs. M.V. Saltykov, is reported to be the common law wife of Mr. Lihareff, formerly of the French Police.

A. Prokofiev

D. S. I.

D.C. (Special Branch)

Copy sent  
to Lt. Hearn

C. H.

## **Marblehead Murder Mystery Solved**

**Four Men Arrested; One Said  
Confessed to Killing Seaman**

Manila, Mar. 18.

The mysterious disappearance of Seaman John Randolph Pirschar, of Birmingham, Alabama, aboard the U.S.S. Marblehead, on February 21, was solved yesterday with the arrest of four men, one of whom was alleged to have confessed to the murder of the sailor, the "Manila Bulletin" reported from Olongapo today.

The seaman was robbed, murdered and his body was thrown into the sea, according to the confession, the "Bulletin" said.—United Press.

IN REPLYING  
REFER TO NO.

SP 320  
REH/jaw



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
HEADQUARTERS, FOURTH MARINES,  
SHANGHAI, CHINA.

20 March 1940

Dear Mr. Mason:-

Information has been received to the effect that Boatswain's Mate second class John R. PIRSCHIR, of the U.S. Navy, deserted on or about 21 February 1940 with around \$2,000.00 government funds.

There is reason to believe that PIRSCHIR was interested in a Zina LEVANDNI who resides at Apartment No. 1, 382 Route Frelupt.

It is believed that this girl is at present a dance girl at the Del Monte cabaret on Avenue Haig.

Any information that you can get as to this girl's activities or associates will be appreciated.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the French Police.

Very truly yours,

*R. E. Honsowetz*  
R. E. HONSOWETZ  
1stLt, U.S.M.C.

LWK/

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

S.I., Special Branch

REGISTRY

REPORT

No. S. I. D.

Date April 2, 1940.

Date

Subject (in full) Extract from April 1st issues of Shun Pao and Sin Wan Pao

entitled "Chinese Complaint Against Y.M.C.A. Performance"

Made by D.S.I. Logan

Forwarded by D.I. Crawford

The attached translation of a report which appeared in the April 1st issues of the Shun Pao and Sin Wan Pao entitled "Chinese Complaint Against Y.M.C.A. Performance" was brought to the notice of Mr. W.E. HINES, General Secretary of the Foreign Y.M.C.A., at 9.30 a.m., April 2, 1940. According to Mr. HINES the performance in question, which consisted of a skit on Chinese street life was well received and applauded by the Chinese members of the audience and no Chinese was seen to get up and leave.

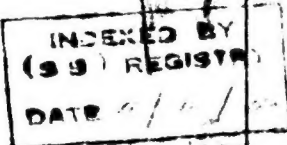
No action is being taken by the Foreign Y.M.C.A. in connection with the allegations contained in the report.

*W. Logan*

D. S. I.

D.C. (Special Branch).

FILE



April 1, 1940.

Morning Translation.

Shun Pao and Sin Wan Pao of March 31 :-

CHINESE COMPLAINT AGAINST A Y.M.C.A. PERFORMANCE

On the night of March 29, a stage performance entitled "Chinese Vendors" was given by the Carnival and Circus sponsored by the Foreign Y.M.C.A., in which the behaviour of low class Chinese was depicted. The play was highly insulting to Chinese people. When the hisses from the Chinese members of the audience went unheard by the players and sponsors, some of the Chinese audience rose and left the performance.

5.1  
Mr. Bright, Chief of the Athletics Section of the Foreign Y.M.C.A., has always been on good terms with Chinese athletes, but he is absent from Shanghai and his post is at present being held by Schaferg. It is indeed regrettable that such an insulting performance to the Chinese should have been staged in the Foreign Y.M.C.A., especially at a time when Mr. Bright is away from Shanghai. It is sincerely hoped that sporting and newspaper circles will do something to urge the authorities of the Foreign Y.M.C.A. to take action and to give an assurance that a recurrence will not take place. If this request be ignored, sporting circles, with a view to upholding our national prestige, should withdraw from participation in all sports contests sponsored by the Association as a sign of non-cooperation.